

# *Pharmaceutical firm defends charging \$375,000 for medication once given away for free*

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New York, February 23 (RHC)-- The pharmaceutical firm Catalyst is defending its decision to charge \$375,000 a year for a drug that used to be available for free. The drug, Firdapse, is used as a medication for a rare neuro-muscular disease.

The price of the drug skyrocketed after Catalyst bought the rights to it from another pharmaceutical company, which offered the drug for free through the FDA, the Federal Drug Administration.

U.S. presidential candidate Senator Bernie Sanders recently criticized the company, accusing it of immorally exploiting patients who need the medication.

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